THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): No revival strategy has so far been prepared by the Central Coalfields Limited (CCL). However, the Board of Directors of the CCL in their meeting held on 17.2.99 have considered following measures for improving the financial position and coal production of the company:--

(i) Consolidation of the capacity of the washeries of CCL for washing of 7 million tonnes of raw coking coal per year.

(ii) Washing of non-coking coal through the washeries at Kargali, Gidi and Piparwar to achieve reduction of the ash content of washed non-coking coal to 18.5%.

(iii) Increasing production level substantially at the end of IX and X Plan periods by developing the coal reserves within CCL command area having high extraction potential.

Pithead stock of coal of MCL

1556. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present pithead stock of Coal of Mahanadi Coalfieds Ltd. (MCL);

(b) whether the pithead stock of Coal of MCL has been increasing; and

(c) if so, the details of steps taken to reduce the pithead stock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) The pithead stock of coal in Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL) as on 1.3.99 is 39.27 lakh tonnes (Provisional).

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir, MCL produces mostly power grade coal which is suitable for power generation. The stock with MCL has increased from 22.92 lakh tonnes on 1.4.98 to 39.27 lakh tonnes on 1.3.99 because of poor off-take of coal by the power houses linked to Mahanadi Coalfields Limited (MCL).

The Coal Company is trying to increase the offtake of coal to non-core sector consumers, seasonal consumers like brick kiln industries and sales of coal through the Liberalised Sales Scheme (LSS).

साउथ ईस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लि॰ में औषधालय भवन

1557. **श्री लक्खीराम अग्रवाल:** क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में साउथ ईस्टर्न कोलफील्ड्स लि॰, बिलासपुर में किसी औषधालय भवन का निर्माण किया गया है; यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ख) इस निर्माण कार्य पर कुल कितनी लागत आई है; और

(ग) इस औषधालय के कब से कार्यकरण प्रारंभ करने की संभावना है?

कोयला मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री दिलीप राय): (क) से (ग) कोल इंडिया लि॰ द्वारा दी गई सूचना के अनुसार साउथ ईस्टर्न कालफील्ड्स लि॰ द्वारा बिलासपुर (मध्य प्रदेश) में एक 200 बिस्तरों वाला बहु-विशेषता प्राप्त अस्पताल निर्माणाधीन है। जनवरी, 1999 तक इस अस्पताल पर 16.09 करोड़ रु॰ व्यय हुआ है। परियोजना को पूरा करने के लिए एक संशोधित लागत अनुमान तैयार किया जा रहा है।

Supply of Coal to Railways, Power, Steel, Cement Plants in Bihar

1558. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the annual requirement of coal by the Power Plants, Steel Plants, Cement Plants, in Bihar, and the Railways during the last two years;

(b) the total quantity of coal supplied to these sectors during the said years;

(c) whether it is a fact that these sectors are not supplied coal in sufficient quantity as per their demand;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to supply coal to all of them in the State as per their requirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI DILIP RAY) (a) and (b) The demand for coal is assessed sector-wise for the whole financial year and not State-wise. However, the requirement of power, steel and cement sectors in the State of Bihar as derived from the linkages and programmes during the last two years and supplies made to these sectors as per the information available with CIL are given as below:—